

040-1

State law provides that aliens shall be eligible for aid only to the extent permitted by federal law. An alien shall only be eligible for aid if the alien has been lawfully admitted for permanent residence, or is otherwise permanently residing in the United States under color of law. No aid shall be paid unless evidence as to eligible alien status is presented. (W&IC §11104)

041-1

Only citizens of the United States and certain categories of aliens are eligible for CalWORKs (formerly AFDC). Citizens must prove their citizenship and aliens must prove their eligible alien status. Aid shall not be authorized until eligible alien status is verified. (§42-430)

041-2

United States citizenship shall be documented by a birth certificate, baptismal certificate or similar proof of birth in the United States or United States territory, United States passport certificate of citizenship or naturalization provided by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, an identification card for use of a resident citizen in the United States or other evidence. Examples of other evidence include other types of formal records or affidavits, or declarations made under penalty of perjury by persons with direct knowledge of the date and place of the applicant's birth in the United States; or of the United States citizenship of the applicant's parents; or facts concerning the applicant which would not exist if he/she were not a citizen. A person who cannot supply the type of proof specified above shall, absent conflicting information, be eligible for a period of 90 days while verification is being obtained. If necessary, this period can be extended, but in no event shall extend beyond the next annual redetermination date. At that time, if no satisfactory proof of citizenship can be obtained, the recipient shall be terminated from aid. (§42-433.2)

042-1

An eligible alien is one who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence; or permanently residing in the United States under color of law, including aliens lawfully present in the United States as a result of the application of the provisions of Immigration and Naturalization Act §207(c), after March 31, 1980 (Aliens Admitted as Refugees), §208 (Aliens Granted Political Asylum by the Attorney General), and §212(d)(5) (Aliens Granted Temporary Parole Status by the Attorney General); aliens granted status as Conditional Entrant Refugees pursuant to §203(a)(7) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act in effect prior to April 1, 1980; aliens granted indefinite voluntary departure in lieu of deportation; and aliens granted an indefinite stay of deportation. (§42-431.2)

042-2

State law provides that aliens shall be eligible for aid only to the extent permitted by federal law. An alien shall only be eligible for aid if the alien has been lawfully admitted for permanent residence, or is otherwise permanently residing in the United States under

color of law. No aid shall be paid unless evidence as to eligible alien status is presented. (W&IC §11104)

042-3

IRCA (amnesty) aliens (who were potentially eligible for AFDC on May 5, 1992) shall be aided immediately upon becoming eligible. Although counties do not have to identify these individuals until the next annual redetermination, aid is to begin at the earliest time the alien meets all eligibility conditions. When the county identifies the eligible alien at this later date, a corrective underpayment would be issued. (All-County Information Notice (ACIN) No. I-32-92, July 10, 1992 interpreting §82-820.3)

In addition, under §301, Family Unity, of the Immigration Act of 1990, the spouse and minor children of an IRCA alien (who are not themselves IRCA aliens) may be eligible for AFDC when they are granted a "temporary stay of deportation", as they are then permanently residing under color of law under §41-431.22.

042-4

For purposes of the CalWORKs program, "qualified aliens" are those:

1. Lawfully admitted for permanent residence, under the Immigration and Naturalization Act (INA);
2. Granted asylum, under INA §208;
3. Admitted as refugees, under INA §207;
4. Whose deportation is being withheld under INA §243(h) or §241(b)(3), as appropriate;
5. Paroled into the U.S. for at least one year, under INA §212(d)(5));
6. Granted conditional entry, under INA §203(a)(7), as in effect prior to April 1, 1980;
7. Cuban/Haitian entrants, as defined in Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980;
8. Certain battered aliens, as defined in the PRWORA, Title IV, §431.

(All-County Letter (ACL) No. 98-65, pp. 3, 7, August 14, 1998)

042-5

The United States Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit, has held that persons seeking asylum are not eligible for AFDC benefits in California. The court further concluded that Congress never intended to extend welfare benefits to aliens whose presence in the United States is unlawful and whose sole claim to entitlement rests on their filing applications for asylum

with the Immigration and Naturalization Service. (*Sudmir v. McMahon* (1985) 767 F.2d 1456)

043-1

Residence in the state, but not in the county, is a requirement for receipt of CalWORKs (formerly AFDC). However, it is necessary to determine the county in which the applicant lives in order to establish county responsibility for payment of aid. (§42-400)

043-2

No durational period of residence in the state or county is required to be eligible for CalWORKs (formerly AFDC). (§42-401)

043-3

Recipients of categorical aid from other states who move to California with the intent to make their homes here shall be granted aid promptly, if otherwise eligible. County Welfare Departments shall work out cooperative arrangements with other states to preclude any break in the receipt of assistance and to avoid the duplication of aid payments from two states. (§42-421)

044-1

The responsibility for accepting the application and taking all actions necessary to determine eligibility or ineligibility and for granting or denying aid in the CalWORKs (formerly AFDC) Program rests with the county where the applicant lives. (§40-125.1)
The county where the applicant lives is generally the county where the applicant is physically present when he or she makes the application. (§40-125.3)

046-1

The income and resources of the sponsor and his/her spouse who lives with him/her shall be deemed to be the income and resources of the sponsored alien. (§43-119.22)

046-1A

State law, as most recently amended by Assembly Bill No. 1542, provides that in determining the eligibility and amount of aid for an alien under the CalWORKs program, "the income and resources of the alien shall be deemed to include the income and resources of any person who has executed an affidavit of support on behalf of the alien and the spouse of that person as provided in Subtitle C (commencing with Section 421) of Title IV of Public Law 104-193 and any subsequent amendment thereto." (W&IC §11008.135(a))

046-2A

A sponsored alien is an alien whose entry into the United States was sponsored by a person or group which, as part of this sponsorship, executed an affidavit of support or similar agreement on behalf of the alien (who is not the child of the sponsor or of the sponsor's spouse) as a condition of the alien's entry into the United States. (§80-301s.(5))

046-3

The sponsored alien provisions do not apply if the alien is: Admitted to the United States under §203(a)(7) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act (INA), or under §207(c) of the INA; paroled into the United States as a refugee under §212(d)(5) of the INA; granted political asylum by the Attorney General under §208 of the INA; or a Cuban or Haitian entrant, as defined in §501(e) of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980. (§43-119.1)

046-4

A person entering the United States as a refugee under §212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act (INA) is exempt from sponsored alien provisions, per §43-119.123. It is the position of the CDSS that parolees admitted under §212(d)(5) of the INA are exempt from the sponsored alien provisions only if an affidavit of support was not required as a condition of entry into the United States. (All-County Information Notice I-02-94, January 28, 1994)

046-5

As a condition of AFDC (now CalWORKs) eligibility, the sponsored alien who has been sponsored by an individual must provide upon county request information and documentation concerning his/her sponsor which may be necessary to make the determination of income and resources. (§43-119.231)

These reporting responsibilities continue for a period of three years from the date established by INS as the date of entry for permanent residence, or until the death of the alien's sponsor. (§§43-119.214 and .24)

046-5A

State law provides that, as "a condition of eligibility, the sponsored applicant or recipient shall provide information regarding the income and resources of any person, and the spouse of that person, who has executed an affidavit of support on behalf of the alien." (W&IC §11008.135(b))